



Courtesy photo by Chinook Winds Casino Resort staff

Josh Blacketer, Chinook Winds marketing director (left), and Mike Fisher, Chinook Winds general manager (right), present a check to Fire Chief Don Baker.

Annual contribution to fire district solidifies longstanding partnership

A contribution in the amount of \$71,478 has been made to the North Lincoln Fire & Rescue District as an ongoing partnership between Chinook Winds Casino Resort, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and the district.

In a recent letter from the district, Fire Chief Don Baker stated, “The fire district greatly appreciates the past and future support of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians and the opportunity to provide Chinook Winds Casino Resort with fire protection and emergency services.”

Every budget year, the fire district and Chinook Winds enter into an agreement of funds to assist the district in providing fire protection and emergency services to Tribal properties held in trust.

The fire district determines what money is needed in order to service all the properties owned by the Tribe and submits the requested amount.

“We are proud of our partnership with North Lincoln Fire & Rescue District. The Tribe and the casino know the importance of strong community partnerships like this one,” said Casino General Manager Mike Fisher.

Tribal Vendor Fair

Dec. 19, 2015

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Chinook Winds Casino Resort Convention Center

Just in time for holiday shopping!

\$40 fee includes table, skirting and power

Contact Laura Thomas at 541-996-2323 or laurat@cwresort.com for your vendor application and any questions.

Siletz News Letters Policy

Siletz News, a publication of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, is published once a month. Our editorial policy encourages input from readers about stories printed in *Siletz News* and other tribal issues.

All letters must include the author’s signature, address, and phone number in order to be considered for publication. *Siletz News* reserves the right to edit any letter for clarity and length, and to refuse publication of any letter or any part of a letter that may contain profane language, libelous statements, personal attacks, or unsubstantiated statements.

Not all letters are guaranteed publication upon submission. Published letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Siletz News*, Tribal employees, or Tribal Council.

Please type or write legibly. Letters longer than 450 words may be edited for length as approved by Tribal Council Resolution #96-142.

Please note: The general manager of the Siletz Tribe is the editor-in-chief of *Siletz News*.

Editor-in-Chief: Brenda Bremner

Editor: Diane Rodriguez

To the editor:

The Lincoln City Congregational Church would like to thank the Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund not only for their generous grant of nearly \$2,000 for the purchase of a defibrillator and supplies, but for the remarkable number of charitable contributions they make for worthy projects every year.

We recently accepted the defibrillator funding grant at an event held at the Chinook Winds Casino Resort Hotel where 34 other grants totaling more than \$90,000 were awarded. The Siletz Tribe has now provided grants totaling over \$9 million in our 11-county part of the state, many of them to aid programs that provide for those struggling near the poverty level, including particularly food banks, special projects for veterans, and the homeless.

Their generosity also includes the arts, for example, with a grant to the Red Octopus Theatre Company for period costumes for an upcoming production of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*.

The grant our church received will benefit not only our congregation, but numerous other groups who use our building, providing a much-needed safety net. The Siletz Tribe is to be commended for its many contributions that fill real needs and enrichment in our community.

Doug McKenzie
Gleneden Beach

Baker named Superstar employee

Vikky Baker, a Keno supervisor for Chinook Winds Casino Resort, is the Chinook Winds Superstar for the third quarter of 2015.

Chinook Winds directors, selected staff, Tribal Elders and staff of the Siletz Tribal Gaming Commission attended the Superstar Ceremony in the casino’s convention center on Oct. 29. One-, five-, 10- and 15-year employees also were recognized for their service to the organization.

Baker was nominated by both employees and guests for exemplifying BEACH core values. To be eligible to receive the Superstar award, actions observed must be above and beyond the employee’s regular duties or include a description of an employee who consistently advocates the core values and goals of the casino through excellence in their service to guests and relationships with fellow employees.

Chinook Winds’ BEACH core values form the foundation on which staff perform and conduct themselves daily. The core values, which spell out “BEACH,” include Be Passionate & Determined, Embrace Change, Accountability, Customer Service and Happiness.

In recognition of her accomplishment, Baker was presented with a check for \$1,000, a Superstar parking space and a marble tile plaque, engraved with her name, that will be displayed at the front entrance to the casino.

Nominations go through several reviews before a final selection is made. Both casino staff and casino guests can submit Superstar nominations. With more than 800 employees and only four of these awards given each year, it’s a real honor to be chosen as the Superstar.

Other employees nominated for this award include Mary Ann Moore, Tyler Lopez, Edward Schmock, Wesley Culver, Jeff Davidson and Kendra Russell.

Baker was nominated by a co-worker for her fantastic BEACH core values. The



Courtesy photo by Chinook Winds staff

Vikky Baker

co-worker states: “I have worked with Vikky for 5 years and in that time she has shown nothing more than the highest of standards when it comes to our BEACH core values. Her passion and determination reflect on all of her employees and she shows a great passion for her job. Vikky stands accountable for herself and her department. She has a wonderful rapport with our guests and has for 18 years. Last but not least, she always comes to work smiling. She is truly happy to be here and it shows in her performance. I am lucky to have such a wonderful comrade. Vikky deserves to be superstar because in my eyes she already is.”

Baker has been with Chinook Winds for more than 18 years. When asked about working at Chinook Winds and this honor, she stated, “I am truly honored to be chosen as Superstar. Being recognized for years of hard work and dedication to the Keno Department feels amazing. I am so blessed to work with such an amazing team. Thank you to everyone who has taken time to stop and congratulate me. All your kind words mean so much.”